1 October 1968

M E M O R A N D U M

□ Clarify re White ("President of the firm"?)

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: WILLIAM C. BOXLEY

RE: IDENTIFICATION OF ROBERT LEE PERRIN

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Autopsy photograph Number 2627 identified by the Coroner's Office Report of 8/30/62 as that of ROBERT LEE PERRIN, 1713 Calhoun Street, victim of arsenic, self-administered, was shown consecutively to:

1. PRESTON BARZ, Negro/Male, 1806 Seventh Street, N. O., who has stated to this office he worked very closely with PERRIN for at least six months, but not quite a year in 1962. "That's him." cried BARZ "That's his hair-cut short like that, and his head throwed back, just like he did when he talked."

   BARZ was unable to recall the "small circular depressed scar, approximately 1 inch in diameter, 4 inches above the right nipple" as described in the coroner's report of external examination and clearly visible in Autopsy Photo 2627. He had previously stated PERRIN habitually prepared for work each day by removing his shirt and donning a skull cap. BARZ described again (pointing) a depressed scar on the LEFT side of the victim which does NOT show on the photograph. The coroner's report describes such a scar on his right side. Autopsy photo No. 2627 shows only the head and upper chest (partial) of the body.

   BARZ seemed irritated at this third interview, whereas he previously had displayed a cheerful and cooperative attitude. For the first time he asked why this office was interested in the case. He still could not recall ever having seen tattoos on PERRIN. He described PERRIN's complexion as "yellow in color--sort of a creamy, thick skin; real thick skin." Nor could BARZ recall what the coroner's report describes as "A large thoracotomy scar approximately 1 foot in length, beginning at the right nipple and extending around to the right posterior chest."

   However, BARZ said there was no doubt the photograph was of "Mr. Bob," as he calls PERRIN.

2. Officials of the JOHNSON SPECIALTIES COMPANY, service road adjacent to Airline Highway, Jefferson Parish, east from Labarre Road.

□ Q: What did they manufacture?

RAY EMMONS, a supervisor of the company, referred us to a former foreman of the firm's garage, one DICK BENNETT. BENNETT and BARZ formerly were employed along with PERRIN, when the firm went under the name of CRESCENT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY. BENNETT previously has told this office that he did, in fact, give PERRIN a mechanic's job, as NANCY PERRIN RICH testified to the Warren Commission, at her behest. EMMONS was not told that we already had interviewed BENNETT, so he dialed BENNETT's unlisted home number, spoke to "Julie"- apparently BENNETT's daughter, and learned neither BENNETT nor his wife was home at that time, indicating a present familiarity with the Bennett family.

Perrin = ☐ Limey ??

EMMONS reminded JOHNSON SPECIALTIES COMPTROLLER TEMPLETON that PERRIN had been "the Limey--the Englishman who was killed." TEMPLETON then recalled that PERRIN was the former employee who had worn a skull cap at work. Neither EMMONS nor TEMPLETON recalled ever having seen PERRIN work without his shirt.

However, EMMONS remembered that PERRIN had tattoos on both arms. He said that DICK BENNETT had contacted PERRIN through NANCY PERRIN at MIKE"S LOUNGE on Airline Highway, where, he said, MRS. PERRIN worked. He said that MIKE'S LOUNGE had been busted for running dope, women, etc., and had become a pawn shop.

English accent?

EMMONS also remembered that PERRIN "had been to sea." TEMPLETON remembered him for his English (British) accent. Both said he was with the company about three months. BENNETT had put the time at "close to a year."

"I thought it was odd what he told me the last afternoon he worked here," EMMONS volunteered. "We were out working (on a dragline) and PERRIN finished for the day and said 'I want to show you where everything is,' and he then pointed out where all the different pieces of repair equipment were, and, I said, 'Well, Bob, you don't need to show me all that, you'll be back tomorrow, won't you?' and he said, 'Well, you never can tell, you know' just like that, so he must have been planning it then."

EMMONS relates this story much more melodramatically than it can be described in a written report.

At this point EMMONS was shown Autopsy Photo No. 2627. "That's him," he said, before the picture had completely cleared its manilla envelope. "Yes, sir, that's PERRIN. I'd know that scar anywhere." He was asked it indeed he did remember the small circular scar abot the right nipple.

"Oh, no, I never saw, that," EMMONS said. "I mean that bit one up into his shoulder there."

It was explained to EMMONS that he was identifying, not a scar, but the burlap stitching which held the corpse together after the autopsy.

"OH," he said, "well he had scars all over his body; all over it."

So, it would indeed appear that PERRIN had worked without his shirt, after all.

TEMPLETON was asked if salary checks issued ROBERT LEE PERRIN could be made available for study, and he agreed, but asked the purpose. When informed they would be useful for handwriting comparison and as an indicator of the business areas PERRIN frequented for purposes of cashing them, TEMPLETON replied he doubted checks would still be available from 1962. However, he asked for 24 hours in which to locate them.

Next afternoon, a return visit to JOHNSON SPECIALTIES on October 1, revealed that TEMPLETON, EMMONS, and WHITE, the president of the firm, who had sat in on the original interview described above, all were gone, but TEMPLETON had left word that the checks were not available because "the company throws away its cancelled checks every three years."

WHITE = "President of the firm"?

3. REF. A. KRUSHEVSKI, 4516 Galvez, who stated that he owned the building at 1713 Calhoun, and rented the upstairs apartment to MRS. NANCY PERRIN about four months prior to the death of ROBERT LEE PERRIN.

KRUSHEVSKI was vague and evasive about almost every question asked him. When shown Autopsy Photo No. 2627, however, he said:

"That's the type."

"But, is that him--the man who rented the right-side upstairs apartment," he was asked.

"Oh, yes, like I said, that's the type," KRUSHEVSKI replied.

(SEE INTERIM JOEL PALMER MEMORANDUM RE: KRUSHEVSKI INTERVIEW. Also, further inquiry is being made into the background of A. KRUSHEVSKI and an additional memorandum will be filed.)